

To: Harrison, Melissa[Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov]
From: Burke, Thomas
Sent: Sat 8/15/2015 8:23:57 PM
Subject: Re: Urgent question

So sorry for the delay in responding. Must have been in a poor reception area

I am good with the language and it is consistent.

Tom

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On Aug 15, 2015, at 2:56 PM, Harrison, Melissa <Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Tom! Thanks again for all your help on the data. I thought we were all on the same page, but there is some confusion over the messaging language I thought we agreed to this morning. I advocated to remain consistent to remove references to MCLs, but include the sentence which references risk-screening recreation levels (highlighted below). I want to confirm this was your understanding as well. The language below is now approved by the EOC at HQ. Thanks! Melissa

Shiprock, New Mexico - August 15, 2015: Today, EPA has released additional water quality data from Aug. 7 to Aug. 9, 2015 on the San Juan River between Farmington and Shiprock, New Mexico. The August 7 data was collected for baseline purposes to understand river conditions at the Hogback monitoring location, prior to the impact of the upstream contaminants from the Gold King Mine release.

To assess the impacts of the release at the Gold King Mine, water quality samples were collected at four locations for 24 metals. Each surface water sample was analyzed for metals including arsenic, cadmium, lead and mercury.

The validated results indicate the EPA risk-screening level of recreational use is being met for all metals for the length of the river between Farmington and Shiprock, with the exception of lead on August 8. However, lead dropped below risk-

screening levels on August 9.

Due to the highly variable conditions typical of this segment of the river, additional testing will be conducted, and we continue to work closely with the Navajo Nation EPA on assessing drinking water, agriculture, livestock, and other critical water needs.